

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING THE GARY FRONTIERS SERVICE CLUB AND ITS HONOREES

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 13, 2014

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate the birth of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and reflect on his life and work, we are reminded of the challenges that democracy poses to us and the delicate nature of liberty. Dr. King's life, and, unfortunately, his untimely death, reminds us that we must continually work to secure and protect our freedoms. Dr. King, in his courage to act, his willingness to meet challenges, and his ability to achieve, embodied all that is good and true in the battle for liberty.

The spirit of Dr. King lives on in the citizens of communities throughout our nation. It lives on in the people whose actions reflect the spirit of resolve and achievement that will help move our country into the future. I am honored to rise today to recognize several individuals from Indiana's First Congressional District, who will be recognized during the 35th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Breakfast on Saturday, January 18, 2014, at the Genesis Convention Center in Gary, Indiana. The Gary Frontiers Service Club, which was founded in 1952, sponsors this annual breakfast.

This year, the Gary Frontiers Service Club will pay tribute to local individuals who have for decades unselfishly contributed to improving the quality of life for the people of Gary. Notably, Judge Calvin Hawkins will be honored with the prestigious Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Drum Major Award for 2014. Additionally, several individuals will be recognized as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Marchers at this year's breakfast, including Bishop Dr. Dale Cudjoe, Master Alex Dunlap, Stephen Mays, Dr. Deborah McCullough, MD, and Sadie Newby-Ethridge. Finally, Linnal Ford was selected as the 2013 Yokefellow of the Year.

Though very different in nature, the achievements of each of these individuals reflect many of the same attributes that Dr. King possessed, as well as the values he advocated. Like Dr. King, these individuals saw challenges and faced them with unwavering strength and determination. Each one of the honored guests' greatness has been found in their willingness to serve with "a heart full of grace and a soul generated by love." They set goals and work selflessly to make them a reality.

Mr. Speaker, I urge you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in commending these honorees, as well as the Gary Frontiers Service Club officers, President Oliver J. Gilliam, Vice President Sean Jones, 1st Vice President James Piggee, Recording Secretary Linnal Ford, Financial Secretary Sam Frazier, Corresponding Secretary Ferba R. Hines, and Treasurer/Seventh District Director Floyd Donaldson, as well as Clorius L. Lay, who has

served as Breakfast Chairman for the last twelve years, in addition to all other members of the service club for their initiative, determination, and dedication to serving the people of Northwest Indiana.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 13, 2014

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I would like to provide a reason for my absence during a series of votes on Thursday, January 9, 2014. During Roll Calls 7–10, I was suffering from severe back spasms and went immediately to the Attending Physician's office for assistance. If present, I would have voted yes during Roll Calls 7, 8 and 9 and I would have voted no during Roll Call 10.

COMMEMORATING THE FOUR YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE CATASTROPHIC EARTHQUAKE IN HAITI

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 13, 2014

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, January 12, 2014, at 4:53 p.m. marked the fourth anniversary of the catastrophic earthquake that rocked the island nation of Haiti, the poorest country in our hemisphere. Though much has been written about it, it is difficult to describe the devastation left by the quake. I travelled to Haiti soon after it struck and can scarcely describe it myself. Casualties numbered in the hundreds of thousands, and an even greater number of dwellings were destroyed. Haiti's already poor infrastructure was decimated.

The international community did respond, with the U.S. leading the charge. Our initial disaster relief was nothing short of heroic, and prevented significant further harm in the days and weeks following. Relief eventually gave way to recovery and then reconstruction. Four years out, the U.S. remains heavily involved and engaged in the process of building Haiti back better.

The Foreign Affairs Committee, where I am ranking member, has been active in this process. We commissioned a GAO report to give us an assessment on U.S. assistance, which found, among other things, that the administration was not providing sufficient information to the Congress to fulfill its oversight role. We then sent a bipartisan staff delegation to look into specific problems GAO found, and soon after held a full committee hearing on the matter.

Capping that oversight process, this past December the House overwhelmingly agreed

to bipartisan legislation to address some of these issues, and sent the bill to the Senate. The Assessing Progress in Haiti Act of 2013 is authored by a recognized champion advocating on behalf of the people of Haiti, Barbara Lee of California. It enjoys strong bipartisan support, such as from Foreign Affairs Chairman Royce. It seeks to fill the information gap by requiring the State Department to report on various aspects of our assistance program, and includes a Statement of Policy that articulates the direction we believe that assistance program should take.

The reality is that a multi-year and multi-billion dollar commitment, borne of the generosity of the American people, calls for ongoing vigilance — both in terms of accountability as well as policy direction, and I believe H.R. 3509 goes a significant way to achieve that goal.

I intend to work with my colleagues in the Senate to see that this legislation becomes law in the next few months. I believe the Haitian people, who have endured more than their fair share of misery at the hands of this horrific natural disaster, deserve nothing less.

IN HONOR OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY DEPUTY SHERIFF GEORGE "TONY" JACK

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 13, 2014

Mr. FARR. Ms. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Santa Cruz County Deputy Sheriff George "Tony" Jack who served 28 years in local law enforcement. Tony was born in Los Gatos, California and spent most of his life in Santa Cruz County, attending Soquel High School and Cabrillo College.

Tony was involved in the 4-H and the Santa Cruz County Fair and enjoyed teaching at Cabrillo College as well as counseling troubled youth, spending time with the elderly, and assisting the homeless. He was known for treating others with dignity and respect and knew early in life that he was destined to have a career in law enforcement.

Tony had a variety of assignments throughout his career, having worked as a patrol officer, gang investigator, field training officer, SWAT member, and an instructor for driving and the safe use of firearms. Most recently Tony was pleased to serve as Superior Court Bailiff for the Honorable Judge Timothy Volkmann.

Tony was a devoted husband and father, often bragging about his three sons, Gavin, Owen, and Kyle, and his significant other, Narine. The entire Santa Cruz Sheriff's Office and its extended family mourn the loss of Deputy Tony Jack, and the entire community of Santa Cruz share in the sadness felt by the Jack family.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay respects to Tony and his commitment to community service and family, and I wish his family peace and solace during this difficult time.

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